

M. Gains
Court Milliner.
HOTEL MANSIONS.
A CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF
Dinner and Theatre
Blouses.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1840

No. 13,998

號一廿月二年八零百九千一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

日十二月正年申戊

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.

M. Gains
COURT MILLINER.
12, ROBINSON ROAD,
KOWLOON.
Ladies' and Children's
HATS
FINEST VALUE & STYLES.
A SPECIAL STUDY.

Intimations.

THORNE'S
OLD VAT

\$15
PER
CASE



As supplied
to the
House of
Commons.

THIS VAT WAS STARTED BY THE LATE ARTHUR THORNE
OF GREENOCK AND HAS BEEN SOLD AS SUCH SINCE 1857

SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS IN
HONG KONG, CHINA & MANILLA
A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

Hongkong, May 1, 1907.

SMOKING CONCERT.

THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS
AND SHIPBUILDERS OF
HONGKONG.

3, DES VŒUX ROAD.

SATURDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, at 9 P.M.

AN INTERESTING PROGRAMME.

Admission 50 Cents.

Tickets can be had at the Institution or

from the Members of the Committee.

Hongkong, February 20, 1908.



NOTICE.

HARBOUR OBSTRUCTION

A STEAM LIGHTER sunk about 400
feet S.W. of China Merchants
Northern Quay, Central Harbour.
Two junks now in position to remove
obstruction will be worked by day by Red
Flags and at night by Red Lights.

BASIL TAYLOR, Comd. R.N.,
Harbour Master, etc.

Hongkong, February 20, 1908.

NOTICE.

WE have admitted into PARTNER-
SHIP Mr. CHARLES EDWARD
HARTNELL BAYLY as from the 1st
January, 1908.

WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors.

Hongkong, February 20, 1908.

LOYD'S REGISTER OF BRITISH &
FOREIGN SHIPPERS.

SUBSCRIBERS to the REGISTER
BOOK for 1908-9, should notify the
Undersigned on or before 25th February
JOHN LAMBERT,
Secretary to Lloyd's Register,
Hongkong.

Hongkong, February 18, 1908.

WANTED.

INTERPRETER, competent to translate
Russian into English. Must be ex-
perienced and of good previous. Apply
in writing stating qualifications, experience,
age and terms, to
"A. B. C.,
Care of 'China Mail' Office,
Hongkong, February 17, 1908.

Hongkong, February 17, 1908.

WANTED.

FOR a Leading Hotel, HOUSEKEEPER
and MATRON. Must be capable
and energetic and of good previous. Apply
in writing stating qualifications, experience,
age and terms, to
"A. B. C.,
Care of 'China Mail' Office,
Hongkong, February 14, 1908.

Hongkong, February 14, 1908.

NOTICE.

FROM this day Mr. G. OLSSON CHASE
ALL CONNECTIONS with our Firm.
BUMANN & BERBLINGER.

Hongkong, February 15, 1908.

NOTICE.

WE have CLOSED temporarily our
AGENCY here.
For particulars apply to Messrs J.
ULLMANN & CO., 34, Queen's Road
Central.

UNION COMMERCIAL INDU-
STRIOUS.

Hongkong, February 14, 1908.

**WEST RIVER TRIPS FROM
HONGKONG.**

Round Trip 6 Days.

Comfortable Steamers—Delightful Climate.

THE most interesting and picturesque
scenery in South China.

For further information, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents, West River British S.S. Co.,
Hongkong, October 26, 1907.

Hongkong, October 26, 1907.

GENERAL FORWARDING.

All kinds of Goods Received,
Packed and Shipped by the
Mail or Cargo Steamers at
Lowest Rates of Freight Pre-
paid or Forward.

Regular Shipments Contracted
for on favourable terms.

Insurance effected according to
instructions.

CHINA EXPRESS, Co.

Telephone 668, 3 Duddell Street,
Hongkong, Dec. 20, 1907.

Business Notices.

W. S. BAILEY & CO.

ENGINEERS & SHIPBUILDERS,
FOUNDERS & BOILERMAKERS.

RIVER STEAMERS, TUGS, MOTOR BOATS

HIGH-SPEED AND SHALLOW-DRAFT VESSELS A SPECIALTY.

ESTIMATES FOR ALL IRON AND STEEL WORK.

TELEPHONES: 187 and K. 21. CABLES: SEYBOURNE, Hongkong.

THEATRE ROYAL

CITY HALL

THE HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB

WILL PRESENT

'THE LIARS'

AN ORIGINAL COMEDY IN FOUR ACTS, BY

HENRY ARTHUR JONES.

TO-NIGHT (FRIDAY), 21st FEB., and TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), 22nd FEB.

Doors open at 8.30 P.M. Performance at 9 P.M.

CAST:

Colonel Sir Christopher Darington.
Edward Falkner.
Gilbert Nepean, (Lady Jessica's husband).
George Nepean, (Gilbert's Brother).
Freddie Taton, (Lady Rosamund's husband).
Archibald Cole, (Dolly's husband).
Waiter (at 'The Star and Garter').
Gadsby, (Footman at Freddie Taton's).
Taplin, (Sir Christopher's servant).
Footman at Oadogha Gardens.
Lady Jessica Nepean (Sisters).
Lady Rosamund Taton (Sisters).
Dolly Cole, (their cousin).
Beatrice Eborace.
Mrs Orespin.
Farris, (Lady Jessica's maid).

PRICES \$3, \$2, \$1.

Sailors and Soldiers in Uniform Half-Price to Pic Stalls and Pit.

Booking Office at the Robinson Piano Co., open on and after MONDAY, the 19th

February, 1908, at 10 A.M.

Hongkong, February 5, 1908.

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Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED

(SOLE AGENTS FOR BELL'S ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON).

SAVE FUEL BY COVERING YOUR BOILERS AND STEAMPIPES

WITH

BELL'S ASBESTOS NON-CONDUCTING COMPOSITION.

ESTIMATES GIVEN

FOR WORK FINISHED COMPLETELY.

CR SUPPLIED IN

Bags of 1 cwt. each.

Office: 6, DES VŒUX ROAD

Hongkong, February 5, 1908.

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Business Notices.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 375 lbs. net, \$5.00 per Cask, ex Factory.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net, \$3.00 per Bag, ex Factory.

Shewan, Tomes & Co.,

GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, February 5, 1908.

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HIGH-CLASS

CRACKERS

CLARENCE HOUSE.
33, 34 & 35, NORTH BRIDGE ROAD, SHANGHAI.
FIRST-CLASS Boarding House.
Room for one per day, \$5.00.
Room for two per day, \$8.00.
Monthly Rates, Single, \$100 & \$110.
Two in a Room, \$50 extra.
Hongkong, November 2, 1907. 1764

BELLE VIEW HOTEL
SHAUKWAN ROAD.

A Pleasant Drive along the Sea Front, either by Train or Ricksha.
FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATION AT MODERATE RATES.
Under European Management.
MACHADO'S FAMOUS STRING BAND will be in attendance.
EVERY SUNDAY EVENING, from 4.30 to 8.30 p.m.
Dancing will be held every SATURDAY EVENING from 7.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.
TELEPHONE No. 393.

VICTORIA HOTEL,
TELEGRAMS, VICTORIA, SHANGHAI, SHAMKUN, CANTON.
(ON THE BRITISH CONSUL.)
H. HAYNES, Manager.

MACAO HOTEL.
TELEGRAMS, HONGKONG, MACAO.
MACAO, CHINA.
In the Centre of Praya Grand.

BOTH Hotels Electrically Lighted and under Experienced European Management.
Every Comfort and Convenience for Residents and Tourists.
Wm. FARMER, Proprietor.
428

CARMICHAEL AND CLARKE,
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS.
2, Queen's Building, Hongkong.
8-4, CHANGE ALLEY, SINGAPORE.

CARMICHAEL, HONGKONG.
CARMICHAEL, SINGAPORE.
Codes Used—Scott's 12th Edition; A.B.C. 4th and 5th Editions; Meyer's Standard; Watkins; and A.I. Telephone No. 232.

THE COMMERCIAL LAW OFFICE.
ING CHINESE.
With Special Reference to PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION AND BANKRUPTCY LAWS IN HONGKONG.
(Reprinted from the China Mail.)
For Sale at the China Mail Office, at 8, Queen's Road Central.

S. MOUTRIE & Co., LIMITED.

THE ORCHESTRELL Co.'s
NEW MODEL

'AERIOLA'
PIANO
PLAYERS

RETURNED AFTER A FEW MONTHS
ON HIRE

Reduced to \$350.

A Marvel of Mechanical
Genius and the most perfect
Instrument on the Market.

A written guarantee given with
each instrument.

S. MOUTRIE & Co., Ltd.
VORR BUILDINGS, CHATEAU ROAD.
Hongkong, April 16, 1907.



A. S. WATSON
& Co., Ltd.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

PORT:

	Per Doz.	Per Bottle
B.—Old Tawny, Red Seal Capsule ...	\$15	\$1.25
C.—Superior Light Invalid, Black Seal Capsule (old bottled) ...	\$18	\$1.50
D.—Very Fine Old Tawny, Superior Quality (old bottled) Violet Capsule ...	\$25	\$2.10

SHERRY:

	Per Doz.	Per Bottle
B.—Light Dry, Green Seal Capsule ...	\$13.00	\$1.10
C.—Solera, Red Seal Capsule ...	17.50	1.50
D.—Superior Pale Dry, White Seal Capsule ...	19.50	1.65
E.—Finest Pale Dry, Nutty (old bottled) Violet Capsule ...	25.00	2.15

CLARET:

	Per Case 12 doz.	Per Case 6 doz.
St. Estephe ...	\$8.00	\$9.00
St. Julien ...	10.00	11.00
La Basse ...	13.00	14.00
Chateau Haut Brion Larivot ...	19.00	20.00
Chateau Mouton D'Armailhacq ...	23.00	24.00
Chateau Pontet, Canet ...	25.00	—
Chateau La Tour Carnot ...	30.00	—
Chateau Rauzan ...	44.00	—
Chateau Lafite ...	50.00	—

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
Hongkong, November 30, 1907.

BIRTH.
BOWERMAN.—On February 15, at No. 6 Chusan Road, Shanghai, the wife of R. J. Bowerman of a daughter.

DEATHS.
Dr. HEES.—On February 9, at Hankow, Master ARTHUR PAUL, only son of Mr and Mrs Paul de Hees, aged 5 years and 11 months.
BUCHNER.—On February 14, at Edinburgh, EMMA, widow of C. W. Buchner, Ph. D., and dearly beloved mother of Mrs A. A. Crawford.
OZORIO.—On February 16 at 79 Range Road, Shanghai, SEVERINA MARIA OZORIO, widow of the late Francisco A. Ozorio of Hongkong, aged 52 years.

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.
Amusements.

9 p.m.—Performance by Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club in City Hall.
9 p.m.—Fencing Concert at Engineer's Institution Room.

General Memoranda.

SUNDAY, February 23.—Goods per Manila not cleared at 4 p.m. on this date subject to rent.

MONDAY, February 24.—Night Meeting of Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

2.15 p.m.—Meeting of His Majesty's Justices of Peace at the Magistracy.

4 p.m.—Meeting of Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce at City Hall.
Transfer Books of Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., close from this date to 2nd March, inclusive.

Goods per Tonkin unloaded after this date at Noon will be subject to rent and landing charges.

TUESDAY, February 25.—11.45 a.m.—Meeting of The Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

Transfer Books of Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., close from this date to 10th March, inclusive.

Goods per Benares unloaded after this date subject to rent.

THURSDAY, February 27.—9.30 p.m.—Auction of Valuable Household Furniture, &c., at No. 5, Caine Road.

Goods per Delhi not cleared at 4 p.m. on this date subject to rent.

FRIDAY, February 28.—Goods per Austria unloaded after this date subject to rent.

MONDAY, March 2.—11.30 a.m.—Meeting of Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., at Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s Office.

THURSDAY, March 5.—Noon—Meeting of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

9 p.m.—Performance at City Hall.

SATURDAY, March 7.—Noon—Meeting of The Hongkong Milling Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

TUESDAY, March 10.—12.30 p.m.—Meeting of The Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., at Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s Office.

NOTICE.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communications addressed to the Editor, for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

No anonymously signed communications that have already appeared in other papers will be inserted.

Orders for extra copies of the "China Mail" should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day after publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Cash 100 cts., Credit 30 cts., per copy.

Alterations and additions to Advertisements on Pages 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7, should be sent to our Office at 5 Wyndham Street not later than 11 a.m. New Advertisements should be sent to our Office at 5, Queen's Road Central before 5 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Telegraphic Address: Mail, Hongkong. Telephone No. 22.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

OUR GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM.

Nor long since we wrote an article in regard to the personnel of the Legislative Council. Amongst other things we pointed out that, in the strictest sense of the word, an individual appointed by His Excellency the Governor could not be called an "unofficial" member. In saying this we had no intention of casting the slightest slur upon those who are or have been, the Governor's nominees. All that we wished to do was to emphasise the fact that the Governor's nominees were not so fully non-official as the member elected by the Chamber of Commerce. We do not put the member chosen by the Justices of the Peace in the same category as the Chamber of Commerce representative for a very obvious reason. Justices of the Peace are appointed by

the Government. They are Justices of the Peace simply because the Government has conferred that distinction upon them. The gentleman they choose to represent them in the Legislative Council, therefore, is in reality the nominee of Government appointees. Yet he is euphemistically called an "unofficial" member? To speak unreservedly the Council, as it is constituted now, only contains one genuinely unofficial member. Once again we must make it clear that we are not casting any reflection upon the Government nominees, either chosen by the Governor or by the Government nominees. Our sole purpose is to make it clear to the public that the unofficial representation in the Council is even more of a farce than it is generally supposed to be. People are of opinion that if the Council divided on party lines there would be eight officials (including the Governor) and six unofficials. But of the unofficials, as we have shown, only one is elected under conditions in which the Government has no voice. It would be as justifiable to assume that the Governor's nominees, or the gentleman elected by the Government appointees, would vote for the Government on a division as to assume they would vote against it. This would mean thirteen on one side and one on the other? We do not pretend that such a division would ever be likely but we claim that conditions which make it possible should be altered without delay. There is no likelihood, at all events in the immediate future, of Hongkong being relieved from the Crown Colony system of government. The question then arises what form of franchise would best meet the special circumstances which exist locally? Obviously the only method that would give complete satisfaction would be to allow the British, or naturalised, rate-payers of the Colony to elect their own representatives. These rate-payers have the privilege of selecting their representatives on the Sanitary Board and no good reason exists why a similar privilege should not be granted in connection with the Legislative Council. In fact good reasons exist why it should. There is a deplorable lack of interest in public affairs in Hongkong. This, we venture to say, is because the public recognises that it has absolutely no voice in the management of its own affairs. The average rate-payer of Hongkong has less political power than the most ignorant yokel in an English hamlet. For some inscrutable reason a man who could aspire to be Prime Minister of any of the great self-governing Colonies or even of the United Kingdom itself, becomes unfitted, when he is domiciled in Hongkong, to have any voice in the selection of those who make the laws. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman or Mr. Balfour, if they decided to come here to reside, unless they became J's P., would have to sit quietly beneath the knowledge that they were regarded as unfit to exercise the right of choosing their representatives in the Legislative Council! Would it not be possible for the constitution to be changed so as to permit of a Council of 24 members? Of this number there would be three ex-officio members—the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Attorney-General. Nine would be nominated by the Governor and the remaining twelve would be elected by the general public on a franchise similar to that upon which elections for the Sanitary Board are held. The Governor would have a casting vote. The unofficial members of the Sanitary Board are elected by "such rate-payers as are included in the special and common jury lists and also by such rate-payers as are exempt from service on juries on account of their professional avocations." Obviously it would be necessary to add as a necessary qualification British citizenship. The Council would, of course, continue to be presided over by the Governor who would have a casting vote. If a chamber were established of the kind indicated we have no doubt that the general public would begin to take a very genuine interest in the affairs of

the Colony. In the present circumstances they are apathetic because energy or apathy produce similar results. We would like to see an agitation commenced to secure for the British rate-payers of the Colony some of the rights which are now entirely denied to them. And of the success of such an agitation, if it is gone about in the right way, we have no shadow of doubt. To this subject we will return in the near future.

JUNK-BAY MILLS.

The success of any local enterprise, especially at this time when so much has been heard of depression of trade, must needs be hailed with extreme satisfaction. Elsewhere we publish the report and balance sheet for the year ended Dec. 31, 1907, of the Hongkong Milling Company. That document discloses the gratifying fact that a debit of \$72,000, has been during the year, transformed into a credit of \$82,756. These figures speak for themselves and must be very satisfactory to the management and shareholders. If as seems probable, there is to be a revival of trade this year no doubt the Milling Company will fully participate and will be able to show even better results next year. The success it has made to-day has been in the face of keen opposition and vast imports of flour. Coming out with profits in such conditions augurs well for the future.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

To-morrow being February 22nd, George Washington's birthday and an American holiday, the U. S. S. Wilmington is preparing a celebration. There will be "full dress" ship at 8 a.m., and it will remain so dressed until sunset, and there will be a salute of 21 guns at noon. Sports and a base-ball game will add to the interest of the occasion.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Inspection by the Governor.
On the 19th instant His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Chisham, Director of Public Works, and Capt. Taylor, A. D. C., inspected the following public works and institutions:—Albany Filter Beds, extension and reconstruction work; May Road, Queen's Gardens, and Conduit Road; West Point High Level Service Reservoir—in construction; City Disinfecting Station; West Point Filter Beds and trout hatchery; Bonham Road Pumping Station; Extension Medical Staff quarters for Nursing Institute Sisters, and also sites for certain prospective buildings.

On the 26th Lady Lugard is to present the prizes at the flower show at 5 p.m.

An official dinner is to be held at Government House on the evening of the 26th.

Mr. P. H. Holyoak is a passenger from England on the Princess Alice.

On the 28th inst. Lady Lugard is to present prizes at the C. M. S. Victoria Home and Orphanage, Kowloon City, at 3.30 p.m.

Among the passengers to arrive to-day were Archdeacon and Mrs. Moule, of Mid-China. They came down by the Devanha.

The shorthand certificates won during last year are to be presented by Lady Lugard at St. Joseph's College at noon on Tuesday next.

On Feb. 24 His Excellency the Governor presides at a meeting in the City Hall in connection with the proposal to establish an auxiliary in Hongkong to the British and Foreign Bible Society.

News to hand from Swatow is to the effect that at Wong Kong, twenty li from the treaty port, trouble arose owing to the destruction by the natives of a building belonging to the Japanese monks, and an official enquiry is pending.

Yesterday His Excellency, attended by Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, Private Secretary and Capt. Mitchell-Taylor, A.D.C., was present at the Regimental Sports of the 12th Bn., D.C.O., Baluchis, held on the United Service Recreation Ground, Kowloon.

Among the passengers to depart for Australia to-day by the Kumano Maru was Mr. R. J. L. Wright, Clerk in Charge of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Office. Mr. Wright was very popular amongst his friends and was keenly interested in cricket and other sports. He has been transferred on promotion, and his many friends here will join in wishing him every success in the Commonwealth.

DO NOT NEGLECT THE CHILDREN.
At this season of the year the first and natural loosens of a child's bowels should have immediate attention. The thing that can be given is Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy followed by castor oil as directed with each bottle of the remedy. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

THE PRIME MINISTER.

Resignation Expected.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

LONDON, February 21.

The health of the Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, which has been unsatisfactory for some time past, is now giving rise to increased anxiety. It is regarded as extremely likely that the Prime Minister will shortly resign.

If this expectation proves to be correct the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Asquith, will probably become Prime Minister unless the radical wing of the Liberal Party rebels against the arrangement.

GENERAL STOESEL.

Condemned To Death.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

LONDON, February 21.

A telegram from St. Petersburg states that the military Court which has been hearing evidence in regard to the surrender of Port Arthur to the Japanese, after a deliberation extending over thirty hours has condemned General Stoessel to death.

The Court has, however, recommended the Czar to commute the sentence to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress and deprivation of military rank.

In regard to the other officers arraigned General Fock was reprimanded and General Roiss and Lieutenant-General Smirnov were acquitted.

MR GLADSTONE AND AUSTRALIA.

A Lobby Rumour.

(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuters.

via Bombay.)

LONDON, February 20.

A rumour is circulating in the lobbies that the Right Hon. Herbert Gladstone, Home Secretary, is shortly to be raised to the peerage and will subsequently be appointed Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia in succession to Lord Northcote.

STARVING THE SERVICES.

Liberal M's P. Protest.

(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuters,

via Bombay.)

LONDON, February 20.

In view of the pressure which is being brought to bear upon the Cabinet by the anti-militarist section of its following with a view to effecting a large reduction in the expenditure upon the Navy and Army a meeting of Liberal members opposed to weakening the Empire's defence forces has been held.

As a result of the meeting eighty of the Liberal members have signed a memorial, which has been presented to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, deprecating the agitation of the pacifists.

HONOURING THE REGICIDES.

Practical Expression of Sympathy.

(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuters,

via Bombay.)

LONDON, February 20.

The merchants and shop-keepers of Lisbon have given a practical expression of their sympathy with the men who assassinated the King and the Crown Prince of Portugal by subscribing four thousand pounds sterling for the families of those of the regicides who lost their lives.

STUBBORN COUGHS.

Do not allow a cold to linger as it indicates some throat or lung trouble. The timely use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will avoid all danger. For sale by all chemists and store-keepers.

THE AMOY TRAGEDY.

Chinese Arrested.

(From Our Correspondent.)

AMOY, February 21.

As a result of investigations made in connection with the death of Russell, the Dadd Island lighthouse keeper, it has been ascertained that deceased had been wounded on the back of his skull.

The doctors, however, think that death was more probably due to exposure, Russell being clad solely in a pair of trousers when discovered.

Four Chinamen have been arrested in connection with the affair. It is thought that the crime was committed in order to rob Russell of his money.

An inquiry into all the circumstances will be commenced to-day.

TATSU MARU II.

Negotiations At Peking.

(Chinese Mail's Service.)

PEKING, February 20.

The Japanese Minister at Peking has communicated to the Chinese Government a demand for the release of the Tatsu Maru II.

A demand for the punishment of the officials responsible for the seizure is also included.

MANCHURIA.

Proposed Tax on Salt.

(Chinese Mail's Service.)

PEKING, February 20.

Hsu Hsi Chang, Viceroy of Manchuria, having telegraphed that lack of funds prevents continuance of reform schemes, Yuan Shih Kai proposes an additional Tax of from 2 to 3 cash per catty on the salt industry.

THE KWANGSI GOVERNOR.

Proposed Visit To Hanoi.

(Chinese Mail's Service.)

PEKING, February 20.

Chang Ming Chi, the Governor of Kwangsi Province, who is now on a tour of inspection in the unsettled districts, proposes to extend his journey to Hanoi for the purpose of interviewing the French Governor-General in regard to rebels on the frontiers.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

THE TRIAL OF GENERAL STOESEL.

(REUTERS'S SERVICE.)

LONDON, February 19.

General Stoessel, in his final speech in his own defence, assumed the entire responsibility for the surrender of Port Arthur, and said that if blood was necessary in expiation, let it be his blood alone.

JAPANESE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

LONDON, February 19.

The Japanese arrested in Victoria on the 17th inst have been sentenced to a fine of \$500 and one year's imprisonment, with the option of release if they leave the country. Habeas Corpus proceedings have been instituted.

THE RUBBER TRADE.

LONDON, February 19.

Antwerp newspapers report a grave crisis in the Rubber trade, with enormous stocks unsold.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

LONDON, February 19.

A semi-official Russian statement, though emphasizing the inopportune of the Austrian railway project, as likely to increase the obstinacy of Turkey against reforms, views with satisfaction the statement that Austria does not object to other railway enterprises, and concludes by saying that Russia does not desire personal advantage, and sincerely desires to live in peace with Turkey.

THE TEST MATCH.

Australians Batting.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)
SYDNEY, February 21, 1.50 P.M.

The fifth test match between England and Australia commenced on the Sydney Cricket Ground to-day.

The wicket favoured the bowlers, and when the English captain won the toss he sent the Australians in first.

M. A. Noble and C. G. McCartney opened the innings, but the start was a poor one, McCartney being dismissed after he had scored a single.

J. O'Connor joined the Australian captain, but his stay also was brief for he was beaten after scoring nine.

Clem. Hill and Noble made a better showing, but both were dismissed before the luncheon interval Noble being 35 and Hill 19.

Syd Gregory, despite his failure in the fourth test, was again played, and at the interval he was out with eight runs to his credit, the total being 68 for four wickets.

A BATTING COLLAPSE.

Australia All Out.

Sydney, Feb. 21, 1.25 p.m.

The wicket had not improved when the game was resumed after luncheon, and the wet state of the pitch materially assisted the bowlers.

Syd Gregory batted carefully and scored steadily, but he could not get a partner to remain with him, and he saw Warwick Armstrong and Victor Trumper depart with 10 and 3 runs to their credit respectively. Gregory himself was beaten after he had scored 44; top score of the innings.

V. Ransford scored 11, P. Hartigan, the Queensland crack, only added a single, J. V. Saunders was dismissed for a duck and the innings closed for 137, H. Carter being not out with a single run only.

F. L. Fane and J. B. Hobbs opened the Englishmen's innings just before the tea adjournment, and after a run had been scored by Hobbs, Fane was dismissed, the first wicket thus being down for one run.

The Scores are:

AUSTRALIA.

First Innings.

C. G. McCartney	1
M. A. Noble	35
J. O'Connor	9
C. Hill	12
S. E. Gregory	44
W. W. Armstrong	10
Trumper	3
Ransford	11
Hartigan	1
J. V. Saunders	0
H. Carter, not out	1
Sundries	10
Total	137

ENGLAND.

First Innings.

F. L. Fane	0
J. B. Hobbs, not out	1
Sundries	0
Total	1

WHICH COUGH.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Cough Remedy will greatly relieve the severity of any cough. It is a tough mucus-making expectorant, and keeps the cough loose, and tendency toward pneumonia or serious results is promptly counteracted by all chemists and storekeepers.

"THE LIARS."

Production by the A.D.C.

The large audience which attended the opening performance of "The Liars" by the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club at the Theatre Royal last night were highly pleased, both with the acting and the mounting of the piece. It is almost superfluous to remark that the Club have staged the play well. What time, thought, and money can do for their hobby and for the pleasure of their patrons the members of the Club liberally lavish, and it must be a hypercritical public who refuses to be pleased with the results. In particular the stage setting last night was most pleasing to the eye. There was a warmth and colour in the drawing room of Freddie Tatton's house, and in the private sitting room at the Star and Garter Hotel that at once removed the stage atmosphere which so invariably permeates such scenes. The wealth of homeliness appealed strongly to the feelings and the imagination of the audience, and backed as the staging was by an excellent presentation of the work the production must be declared a great success, and the highest commendation is due those who have had the tedious task of preparing it.

The story is on the lines of most modern comedies—a slah of human nature; something that appeals to the everyday man and woman. Lady Jessica Nepean is the central figure. She is a charming personality, a winsome little woman married to a man, who, in addition to being unable to see a joke, is boorish and bizarre. Mrs. W. Logan in the part was a splendid success. She was not only natural in her deportment, but touched the sympathies by her naïveté and charming innocence. In the trying situations with Edward Falkner (Mr. John Robertson) she displayed a delicacy and refinement that were at once creditable and convincing. Edward Falkner makes love to Lady Jessica. Mr. Robertson does that robustly enough, but the infusion of just a little more tenderness, a more sympathetic consideration for a true ring would put the cap upon a dainty piece of work. Lady Jessica is not limited as a woman with a bad heart. She accepts the adoration of Falkner because her own husband does not know how to love or appreciate her, and ultimately drives her to leave the house, but her nature would not under other circumstances tolerate by his unreasonable jealousy and misunderstanding of women. Falkner is a popular idol at the time, having done great things in Africa, and his infatuation for Lady Jessica lends him to the brink of disaster, and in the disguise with his friend Sir Christopher Deering (Mr. H. I. Hutchinson) Mr. Robertson shows out most creditably. His voice is strong, and his demeanour generally that of a cornered lover with a little more of the reckless courage of a hero in such predicaments. Falkner is for taking Lady Jessica away with him and defying the world, but Deering risks friendship to prevent such an intolerable action. Mr. Hutchinson invests these importunities, with considerable feeling and delicacy, the splendid courage of the true friend with great rosin. He plays sincerely and meets with the desired support from Mr. Robertson in such moments that call for spirit and force of character. Mostly between these two it is a combat of good and evil, and a mutual dislike and contempt for Lady Jessica's husband (Mr. Arthur Chapman). Mr. Chapman not only made up to the piece allotted him, but he was the piggyish being, who does not deserve the love of a beautiful woman, to the life. His demand for explanations of Lady Jessica's conduct, when with Falkner, was truly boorish enough to make any woman defiant, and this combined with the ardent love of Falkner makes Lady Jessica ultimately agree to dine with him at the Star and Garter Hotel. She protests that she has lost her way and merely calls for a glass of food from Mr. Falkner. The elaborate menu which Falkner has prepared points in another direction and is the subject for some amusement. Before the dinner is commenced, and during the temporary absence of Falkner from the room, George Nepean (Mr. C. T. Beatty) happens on the scene and leaves to wire his brother Gilbert—Lady Jessica's husband—what he has seen. Without partaking of the food Lady Jessica goes back to town, and later Deering appears, and in the emotional stress is scarcely wanted by Falkner, who leaves him to eat the dinner and goes to London. Lady Jessica seeks assistance in an endeavour to get out of the scrape, and this is where the Liars come in. At the house of Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Tatton the characters assemble. It may be remarked that these men who invariably manages to muddle things, and Mr. Northcott played the muddling man excellently, and to the enjoyment of the audience. He was the light comedian as it were, and prisms is due his performance. Mrs. Tatton (Mrs. W. Logan) endeavoured to help Lady Jessica out of the scrape, and eventually many partners were dragged into the plot. To explain that Lady Jessica dined with someone at the hotel Mrs. Coker (Mrs. H. W. Clothier) agreed to declare that she was at the Star and Garter, but that she was a thin one, and when Gilbert Nepean appeared on the scene to demand an explanation from Lady Jessica the Liars were confounded somewhat by the arrival of Falkner. Upon his appearance Lady Jessica suddenly determines to have the truth told, and calls on Falkner to do so. Here Mr. Robertson's speech was very fine, and his announcement of his love was ultimately followed by Gilbert Nepean being brought to his senses by the conviction that he had not treated his wife as he should have done. How the story ends is best found out at the Theatre, where those seeing out the plot most capably play. Altogether there are sixteen characters in the part and in addition to those mentioned there are Archibald Coker (Major H. Broke), Walter at the Star and Garter Hotel (Lt. Colonel. Dickens), Mrs. Crepin (Mrs. G. D. Thomas), Mrs. Elberton (Mrs. Arthur Chapman) and Farris (Miss Cuthman), Taplin (Mr. P. Nesbitt), Footman of Cardigan Gardens (Mr. H. V. Wilkinson), and Gandy (Mr. Button). Mrs. Van der Woude, Mrs. Clothier and all the others played intelligently and with more or less conviction, and to them, as to the leading characters in the piece, is the highest credit due. All were in line perfect and except that in several instances there was a lowering of voices the piece was most satisfactorily produced. To-night the performance should be better, as the first night nervousness will have been dissipated.

The excellence of the dressing was cause for comment and Mrs. Logan in particular looked charming, especially in the final

scenes. Her dresses were made specially for the occasion, her hat of plain coloured satin, with shaded vulture plumes, coming from Miss Gains' establishment. William Fowell and Company are responsible for the furniture and stage embellishment, and the production of the whole piece was under Messrs R. Sutherland and John Robertson. To these gentlemen the Club and the theatre-going public are under a debt of gratitude. They have lavished untiring energy upon rehearsals and arranging the staging, and the success attained is in a large measure due to their exertions. The performances of the orchestra are worthy of mention, since they were entertaining, the various selections being well played by the Calcutta String Band, and the individual names (composed by Mr. J. H. Clahmore) by Violins, Messrs E. Wolf, P. Gonzalez, J. W. Taylor, G. Morton Smith and H. J. Hickman; Cello, Mr. C. B. Chubb; Flute, Mr. F. M. Crawford; Clarinet, Mr. A. S. Tuxford; Double Bass Mr. H. Chawley.

THE HONGKONG MILLING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Report of the Directors.

The following is the report of the Directors of the Hongkong Milling Co., Ltd. to be presented at the third ordinary general meeting to be held at the Company's Office, The King's Building, Connaught Road, at 12 o'clock Noon, on Saturday, 7th March, 1908.

The Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the Report and Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1907.

After paying running expenses, Directors and Auditors' fees, commissions and all other charges, the profit amounts to \$161,262.76, from which has to be deducted the balance at debit of Working Account at 31st December, 1907, \$77,034.57, and Preliminary Expenses, now written off, \$1,472.10, leaving a balance of \$82,756.09, which the Directors propose to carry forward to credit of new account.

This profit was gained in a little over eleven months' working, as the Mills did not start running until the end of January, 1907.

The Diesel Engines and Milling Machinery are in perfect condition. During the year the Company purchased a launch and two lighters.

A Plant for the manufacture of ice is in course of erection, and a contract has been entered into for the sale of 21 tons of ice per day for 10 years on very advantageous terms to the Company. The Plant will be in working order early in April.

The Directors also have under consideration the question of the establishment of an aerated water factory.

Mr. D. M. Nassim having resigned his seat on the Board on leaving the Colony, Mr. E. Shollin was invited to fill the vacancy. Mr. A. J. Raymond has also resigned his appointment for the same reason.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. H. Percy Smith, who offers himself for re-election.

A. H. KESNER, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.	
LIABILITIES.	
Capital, 10,000 shares of \$100 each fully paid	\$1,000,000.00
Outstanding Sales	\$498,382.28
Sundry Creditors	\$1,305,436.67
On bills payable	\$77,960.30
On open account	\$1,303,398.97
Profit and Loss Account	\$82,756.09
	\$2,964,535.34

ASSETS.

Mill Site, Lands, Mill Buildings, Godown Buildings, Residences, Roads, Piers and Dams	\$ 508,144.58
Machinery and Plant	341,474.10
Miscellaneous Tools, Gear and Lumber	16,848.27
Launches, Lighters, Hulk and Moorings	96,746.85
Furniture	5,294.01
Unexpired Insurance	2,446.69
Sundry Debtors	388,543.25
Cash on hand and at Bank	6,519.64
Stock on consignment	55,619.53
Stock on hand	1,044,207.87
	\$2,964,535.34

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

14th April, 1906 to 31st December, 1907.	
To Expenses Incidental to Establishment of Business	\$ 4,028.00
To Insurance	4,855.08
To Advertising	4,475.67
To Telegraphs	1,299.91
To General Expenses	6,101.63
To Typhoon Damages	3,389.99
To Profit, carried below	161,262.76
	\$186,421.60

By Amount at Credit of Working Account

By Interest \$ 184,839.50 || | \$1,583.00 |
| | \$186,421.60 |

To Balance of Working Account at 31st December 1906

1906, ... \$ 77,034.57

To Preliminary Expenses ... 1,472.10

To Balance ... 82,756.09

\$161,262.76

Profit, brought down ... \$161,262.76

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-ninth ordinary meeting of the above Company to be held at the Company's Offices on 26 Thursday, March at 12 o'clock noon.

The Directors have now the pleasure to submit their Annual Report and Statement of the Company's Accounts made up to 31st December last.

1906.—The Balance at Credit of Working Account as per last Report was \$362,980.55, Add Premiums since received \$367,718.14—\$699,698.70. Deduct Claims paid in 1907 \$180,601.73; deduct Return Premium, &c., \$22,735.09—\$209,355.82. Balance of Profit \$190,342.88.

It is proposed to apportion this sum as follows:

Dividend of \$6 and Bonus of \$2 per share on 20,000 shares \$120,000.00; To add to Extra Reserve Fund, which there stand at \$346,097.75, \$25,648.10; Bonus to Office Staff \$4,713.87, Total, \$190,342.88.

1907.—The Balance at Credit of Working Account at the close of this year was \$375,432.78, which is a satisfactory increase compared with the previous Report.

Directors.—Messrs D. M. Nassim, N. A. Siebs, E. Götz, G. Balloch and N. Haupt resigned their seats on leaving the

Colony and Messrs E. Shollin, A. Fuchs, W. Holme, H. W. Shale and G. Friedland were appointed to fill the vacancies. These appointments will require the confirmation of Shareholders.

Messrs. Shollin and Shale retire by rotation, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. R. Lowe have audited the annual accounts and offer themselves for re-election.

R. SHEWAN, Chairman.

SPORTING.

Cricket.

A match will be played on the Club's ground to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock against the "Garrison." The following will represent the Club:—R. Hancock, H. Hancock, W. C. D. Turner, T. E. Pearce, H. R. Makin, R. O. Hutchison, H. R. Phillips, E. H. Hinde, E. A. Fowler, and W. F. Brower. Reserves:—Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson and F. H. H. Stevens.

FOOTBALL.

The Hongkong Football Club.

The match Hongkong Club v. H. Co. Camorons will take place at 4.30 p.m. to-morrow, and not 3.30, as previously advised, owing to the Rugby Club having no fixture for this date.

SUPREME COURT VACATION.

Chief Justice's Views.

From time to time we have commented upon the proposal to extend the Supreme Court vacation from one month to two and in what we believed, and still believe, to be the interests of the public we have objected to the extension being made. Readers will note from the report of the Chamber of Commerce published elsewhere that the chamber was of opinion that the proposed extension would interfere with public business and that this view was supported by many of the solicitors of the Colony who had written to the Chamber on the subject.

In order to present both sides of the question we reproduce a letter written to His Excellency the Governor by the Chief Justice in which he advances arguments in support of the proposed extension.

I am obliged for Your Excellency's letter of 21st instant allowing me to supplement what I have already written on the subject of the Rule of Court extending the vacations of the Supreme Court in its Original Jurisdiction. The possibility of any extension being agreed to by the Chamber of Commerce did not occur to me when I forwarded the Rule of Court to Your Excellency; but it seems advisable that I should inform Your Excellency of the reasons which have led to this being made.

2. Dissatisfaction with the existing state of things had been expressed for some time past by both sides of the profession; by the Bar, that the present very short "Long Vacation" did not enable them to get a reasonable holiday, by the solicitors, that the barristers went for a holiday whenever they pleased, thus causing a dislocation in the working of the Courts. This year, to put the matter quite concisely, the Bar took an abnormally long holiday; and work was practically suspended from August 1 for 3 months. The leading barristers also intimated their intention of taking a long holiday regularly every year, and a strain of work was such as to render it indispensable. It became necessary therefore to take some steps to put the matter on a satisfactory basis. After many consultations with the members of the Bar, and the leading solicitors, an agreement was reached, namely, that the "Long Vacation" should be definitely extended to two months, in order to enable a moderately long holiday to be taken, the dates, arranged in consultation, being determined with regard to the probability of fine weather in the North. All were agreed that the continuance of legal work through the hot weather was more than the human frame and brain could stand, and that there is no longer any reason why the practice in England, and I believe most other places, should not be followed. The solicitors were especially, more so than the Bar, in favour of the new arrangement, as the result of the new arrangement will be that there is a tacit understanding that the Bar will conform to the new dates in taking their annual holiday. So far as the public is concerned they will not suffer, but the reverse. Many of the delays in getting cases brought on for trial occurred owing to the unforeseen absence of Counsel. I may add that the powers of all concerned were taxed to their utmost last summer, and even if the Bar had not taken the holiday which they did, no more cases could have been disposed of.

3. On the other hand I have agreed to slightly extend what is known as Vacation business, chiefly in respect of Bankruptcy matters. The Bankruptcy Court will in future sit regularly during the Long Vacation.

4. The expression I have used above—that there is no longer any reason why the practice in England should not be followed—needs some explanation.

Prior to the Ordinance passed in 1898 there was no Long Vacation, and it was with the utmost difficulty that the solicitors were persuaded to consent even to a month. It is well known that the attitude which they took up was that they were here to make money, and desired to make it in as short a time as possible; they therefore objected to any cessation of legal work. But the solicitors have completely changed; chiefly for the reason that in nearly all the firms there are now two or more partners at least, and the custom which prevails at the present time is that one partner is nearly always at home for a least a year's holiday.

5. So far I have not referred to myself. I may add that continuous sitting in a close Court during the intense heat of the summer is more than trying, and that the need of a reasonably long vacation is very great.

MERCANTILE AFFAIRS.

Chamber of Commerce Report.

The following is the report of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, for the year ended December 31, for presentation to the members at the annual meeting to be held in the City Hall, on Monday, February 24 at 4 p.m. Several important questions have had the attention of the Committee during the past year.

OPIMUM MONOPOLY AT NANKIN.—The attempt of the Viceroy of Liang Kiang to establish an Opium Monopoly at Nankin and thus injure British interests by fostering native produce at the expense of the Indian Article and which was in direct contravention of Article 6 of the British Treaty of Nankin 1842 received the earnest attention of the Committee.

Protests were made to H.B.M.'s Minister, Sir John Jordan, K.C.M.G., at Peking, and to the Hongkong Government. It is satisfactory to be able to report that, as a result of Sir John Jordan's representations, the Central Government of His Imperial Majesty instructed the Viceroy of Nankin to suspend the Monopoly and a proclamation was issued by the King-nan Opium Monopoly Bureau on the 7th September, 1907, to that effect.

The Committee had the support of the China Association in their action.

PIRACY.—The sum of \$12 was refunded to Commander R. W. Glanville of H.M.S. Waterwitch for payments made by him to fishermen as a reward for discovering shoals and rocks at Good Hope Cape, Swatow and Tungsoang Harbour, and the thanks of the Committee conveyed to him.

CROWN AGENTS' SYSTEM.—In response to a letter received from the Colombo Chamber of Commerce suggesting co-operation with the Crown Agents' system, the Committee replied that they had no reason to complain of the system and had nothing further to add to their letter of the 24th July, 1903, on the subject.

LIVERPOOL COLONIAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.—A letter was received from the joint managers of the Liverpool Colonial Products Exhibition requesting the assistance of this Chamber in making the merchants of the Colony acquainted with the undertaking.

The Committee expressed themselves as being in sympathy with the Exhibition and offered to distribute any circulars containing details which might be forthcoming.

PRIVATE SHOPS.—A letter from the Harbour-Vice Inspector requesting the Chamber to take steps to prevent the sale of private mooring buoys in the harbour has passed between the Chamber and the Hongkong Government.

In a letter dated the 6th August, 1907, the Colonial Secretary conveyed to the Chamber the Government proposal to amend Table C (of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance) and to allow private mooring buoy to be used by ships of other owners when vacant.

The Committee, in their reply, dealt fully with the subject and differed almost in detail with the arguments for a revision of the present system set forth by the Government.

OPINION MEMORANDUM.—A matter which received the attention of the Committee was the Proposed Opinion Amendment Ordinance 1906 (No. 15 of 1906) and subsequent notification (No. 219 of 6th April 1907).

In consequence of strong representations by Messrs A. S. Watson and Co., Ltd., and their contention that the new Ordinance was unfair to local chemists and druggists, the Chamber placed their contention before the Government and suggested that if the Government desired closer control of opium and morphia, separate books should be kept by the chemists and druggists for the recording of the sale of these drugs, and such books should be open to periodical examination by the Government.

In response to the Chamber's letter on the subject, the Government promised that the matter should have their further consideration.

WEATHER FORECASTS.—The Committee having been requested by the Government to nominate a Master Mariner to the Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor to consider the advisability of making certain alterations in the weather forecasts and storm warnings issued by the Hongkong Observatory, Captain J. S. Ronch, of the S.S. Haitan, kindly agreed to act as their representative.

In response to a request by the Government for any observations the Chamber might have to make on the suggestions submitted by Commander Williams, R.N., the Committee expressed themselves as being entirely in accord with the Government's views and thanked the Government for the opportunity afforded the Chamber of commenting upon them.

QUARANTINE.—Letters were received from the Shanghai Chamber requesting the co-operation of this Chamber in protesting against the quarantine restrictions of the Government on vessels from Shanghai, owing to the alleged prevalence of cholera at that port.

The Committee took pleasure in supporting the protest of the Shanghai Chamber.

BRUSSELS SUGAR BOUNTY CONVENTION.—The Chamber received a request from the West India Committee, London, to join them and other Chambers in protesting against the intention of His Majesty's Government to withdraw from the convention at the end of the first five years of its establishment, i.e., 1st September, 1908.

The Committee recognizing the importance to this Colony with its very considerable sugar-raffing industry of the Imperial Government's adherence to the convention, addressed a protest to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and expressed the hope that His Majesty's Minister would decide that it would be in the best interests of the Empire that Great Britain should remain a party to the convention for another space of five years.

By the courtesy of the Hongkong Government a copy was received by the Chamber of a despatch from Sir Edward Grey to His Majesty's Minister at Brussels.

COURT OF COMMERCE.—By the courtesy of the Government the Chamber was enabled to criticize this Bill "An Ordinance to authorize Companies registered under the Companies Ordinance, 1865, to keep local registers of their members outside the Colony."

The Committee, feeling that the Bill, for the greater part, affected those companies whose business was entirely confined to Shanghai, forwarded the draft to the

Shanghai Chamber. After considering that Chamber's views on the Bill, the Committee of this Chamber were able to suggest certain modifications to the Government, which were adopted.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.—The Government did this Chamber the honour to invite their comments on an important Ordinance relating to life insurance companies which provided for a deposit to be made with the Registrar as security for policy holders, and the periodical actuarial examination of life companies liabilities together with annual schedules for the better control of such companies.

The Committee approved of the Bill generally, but suggested a slight alteration which did not commend itself to the Government.

The Committee were also asked for their observations on the proposal of the Government to introduce legislation to enable the Companies' Registrar to strike off the business names of any firm insurance companies so financially sound as to be virtually fraudulent and assured the Government that such a measure would have their cordial approval.

The Chamber were further honoured by being asked to, in their opinion, suggest legislation should extend to registered companies which underwrite marine risks.

The Committee, in their reply, whilst approving the principle, pointed out that hardly the same necessity for protecting the public existed with regard to marine insurance companies as the insured being business men, were more able to judge of the stability of the company and the transactions were more often confined to shorter periods.

CUSTOM STATIONS IN MANCHURIA.—The Committee in their report for 1906 dealt with the injustice to merchants at Newchwang from the fact that goods passed through Tairen (Daly) duty free. From a copy of a letter from the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps in Peking to the Shanghai Chamber, your Committee learn with pleasure that it is the intention of the Imperial Maritime Customs to establish stations both at Daly and the Northern frontier of Manchuria.

SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1909.—The China Association, Shanghai Branch, having approached the Government with a view to securing that measure of support a proposed Shanghai International Exhibition, 1909, might be expected from this Colony, the Government requested the Chamber's opinion.

The Committee expressed themselves as strongly in favour of the Exhibition, and in answer to a query from the Chamber, the Government promised that the matter should have their further consideration.

THE CHINESE CURRENCY.—The vered question of currency reform has again had the attention of the Committee.

This Chamber joined with the Shanghai and Tientsin Chambers in signing a memorial to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Peking as was the case in 1903 and 1904.

The Committee also fully communicated their views again to the Government of Hongkong, who forwarded a copy to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Your Committee regret that no material improvement in currency reform is apparent, notwithstanding all the Chamber's efforts made in this direction.

The question has, however, since been taken up by His Excellency the Governor and the report of the Committee appointed by him to consider the matter is now receiving the consideration of the Government.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON SHIPPING RINGS.—The Chamber was approached by the Hongkong Government to give its views on the subject of shipping conferences and combines and their relation to the bampers or otherwise of British trade, for the purpose of answering a letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

A sub-committee consisting of a merchant and a representative of the shipping companies was appointed to consider the answer the Chamber should give. A circular letter containing the form of questions desired to be answered by the Royal Commission was issued to all members of the Chamber.

Thirty-two replies were received out of a total of 114 members, and a table was prepared which shows in what proportion the different professions and trades answered.

The consensus of opinion was that the existence of shipping conferences was helpful rather than harmful as regards the trade.

Replies to this effect were dispatched to the Hongkong Government and to the Royal Commission on shipping rings.

BANK NOTES ISSUED BY FOREIGN BANKS.—By the courtesy of the Government the Chamber were afforded the opportunity of commenting upon a proposed bill of the Government to introduce legislation for the purpose of prohibiting the circulation in the Colony of all bank notes other than those already authorized.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

Shipping.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS OF MAIL STEAMERS

MARSEILLES & LONDON.

TAKING PASSENGERS ALSO FOR

COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, BRINDISI, &c.
THROUGH TICKETS ISSUED TO BOSTON AND NEW YORK.

STEAMERS	Leave	Conducting Steamers	Due at	Due at
to	HONGKONG	from	MARSEILLES	LYONS
Colombo	1908	MARSEILLES & LONDON	2 days earlier	1 day later
DEVANHA	Mar. 22	BRITANNIA	Mar. 21	Mar. 28
DELTA	Mar. 7	MOULTAN	Apr. 4	Apr. 11
MARMORA	Mar. 21	through steamer	Apr. 18	Apr. 25
DELHI	Apr. 4	(calling at Bombay)	May 2	May 9
MALTA	Apr. 18	MOLDAVIA	May 16	May 23
DEVANHA	May 2	HIMALAYA	May 30	June 6
ORIANA	May 16	INDIA	June 14	June 21

Passengers change steamers at Colombo, and those for Brindisi transfer also to the Express Mail Steamer at Port Said.

* Accommodation in the connecting steamer from Colombo is arranged in Hongkong at time of booking.

In addition to the above Mail Steamers the following STEAMERS

INTERMEDIATE (Non-Transit) STEAMERS

LONDON.

CARRYING SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

STEAMERS	Leave	Due at
HONGKONG	LONDON	LONDON
NUBIA	March 11	April 27
MANILA	March 25	May 11
BORNEO	April 8	May 22
NORE	May 20	June 6
JAPAN	May 30	July 15
SUMATRA	June 13	July 29

These Steamers call also at Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and at Malta or Marseilles.

* Carry 1st and 2nd Saloon Passengers. * Carry only First Saloon Passengers.

For further particulars, Apply to

E. A. HEWETT,

Superintendent.

2121

OSAKA SHOSSEN KAISHA.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE
BETWEEN HONGKONG, SOUTH CHINA
COAST PORTS AND FORMOSA

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—
SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Ship	Leave	Arrive
JOSHIN MARU	TAMUL, via SWATOW, AND AMOY.	SUNDAY, 23rd Feb., at 9 a.m.
DANIN MARU	TAMUL, via SWATOW, AND AMOY.	SUNDAY, 1st Mar., at 10 a.m.

* These Steamers have excellent Accommodation for First and Second-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light. First-class Saloon Amidships. Unrestricted Table.

* Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. For Freight, Passage and further information, apply at the Osaka's local Branch Office, at Second Floor, No. 1, Queen's Road Central.

T. ARIMA, Manager.

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP CO.

CONNECTING AT TACOMA WITH

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

VICTORIA B.O. AND TACOMA

VIA

MOSE, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamers	Tons	Captains	To Sail
* SHAWMUT	9608	E. V. Roberts	27th February
* TREMONT	9608	T. W. Garlick	17th March
* SUMERIO	6232	W. Shotton	3rd April
* SUMERIO	6232	Cowley	2nd May

* Cargo only. * Passenger accommodation.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, ATTENDANCE AND
CULINARY, ELECTRIC LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESSES.

* The Twin-screw s.s. Shawmut and Tremont are fitted with very superior Accommodation for First and Second-Class Passengers. The large size of these vessels ensures steadiness at sea. Electric fan in each room. Barber's shop and steam laundry. Cargo carried in cold storage.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

For further information, apply to

Dodwell & Co., Limited,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS,

GENERAL AGENTS.

Notices to Consignees.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Co.'s Steamship *Laisang* having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that their goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 p.m., the 20th inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers.

Hongkong, February 18, 1908. 267

'BEN' LINE OF STEAMERS.
NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
STEAMSHIP BENLAWERS.

FROM MIDDLESBROUGH, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Landing for extra hazardous Goods of the HONGKONG & KOWLOON STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 25th February, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 25th inst., at 11 a.m.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, February 18, 1908. 268

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP SHAWMUT.

FROM SEATTLE, VICTORIA, YOKOHAMA, KOBE, MOSE AND MANILA.

THE above Steamer having arrived Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature and to take delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

Hongkong, February 20, 1908. 275

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMER MANILA.

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Godowns and/or from the wharves and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 8 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 23rd inst., 4 p.m., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Co.'s representative at an appointed hour. All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, February 17, 1908. 255

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMER TONKIN.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from OCEANIC s.s. *Omara*, from YATTE or s.s. *Saghalien*, from BORNEO or s.s. *Ville de Bordeaux* and *Orgerie*, in connection with the above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk in the Godowns and/or from the wharves and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before 3 p.m., To-day, requesting it to be landed.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undermanned, and Goods remaining undelivered after MONDAY, the 24th February, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 24th February, or they will not be recognised.

All damaged packages will be examined on MONDAY, the 24th February at 3 p.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

J. MILLER, Agent.

Hongkong, February 17, 1908. 263

REMINISCENCES OF INTERPORT ORIENT.

By J. A. L.

Reprinted from the 'CHINA MAIL' in Pamphlet Form.

To be had at the 'CHINA MAIL' Office, 8, Queen's Road Central.

Price 60 Cents.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY.

Terrible Congestion.

Telegrams indicate that the congestion on the South Manchuria Railway grows worse instead of better, says the 'Japan Mail.' Goods are said to be piled up at all the stations, and it is reported that fully a month will be needed to clear off the arrears. The consequence is that merchandise is struggling to find an exit via Vladivostok or Chinwangtao. This is probably the worst period for the Japanese railway. The new rolling stock has not yet been placed on the line and the old is altogether inadequate. It will be remembered that when the Japanese took over the line they had to reduce the gage in order to utilize the only rolling stock then available, namely wagons and locomotives brought from Japan. The work of widening the gage is now proceeding steadily and has been carried to a considerable distance, but until it is completed—which is not likely to be the case before next August at the earliest—the new rolling stock cannot be employed. It is a very unfortunate position, for not only will the line get a reputation for incompetence among the Chinese, but also the Japanese are being severely criticised by foreign onlookers who ignore the real facts of the case.

Dentistry.

DR. HARRY FONG,

AMERICAN TRAINED DENTIST.

ELECTRICAL and Latest Improved Appliances.

61, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

TERMS VERY MODERATE

Consultation Free.

S I E N T I N G

Surgeon Dentist,

No. 14, D'ARVILLE STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE

Consultation Free.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m., Every 30 minutes.

7.30 a.m. to 8.30 a.m., Every 10 minutes.

8.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m., Every 15 minutes.

11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT JARIS as on Week Days.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m., Every 15 minutes.

9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m., Every 30 minutes.

9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., Every 15 minutes.

10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m., Every 10 minutes.

11.00 a.m. to 12 Noon., Every 15 minutes.

12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.

1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m., Every 15 minutes.

7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT JARIS as on Week Days.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALLEN'S BUILDINGS, DUE YOUNG ROAD CENTRAL.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,

General Managers.

1891

WEEKLY NEWS FOR HOME.

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Published to suit the Departure of each English and French Mail Steamer to Europe.

FULL REPORTS

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THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER EVER ISSUED UNDER PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

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ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

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5, WASHINGTON STREET, HONGKONG.

Orders booked by Messrs. CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET PRICES.

Corrected to Thursday, February 19th, 1908.

At 100 cents per Dollar Mexican.

Butcher Meat.

Beef sirloin & prime cut—Mel Lang Pa ... lb 20

Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk ... 20

Kosat—Shiu ... 20

Breast—Nagu Lam ... 15

Soup—Tong Yuk ... 15

Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa ... 20

Autom Ngau Lau Steak ... 30

Sausages—Ngau Chang ... 25

Hallock's Brains—Slow ... per set 10

Tongue fresh—Ngau Li ... each 50

Head—Ngau Tau ... 15

Heart—Ngau Sum ... 13

Ham, Salt—Ngau Kin ... 18

Feet—Ngau Kerk ... 10

Kidneys—Ngau Yiu ... 10

Tail—Ngau Mai ... 17

Liver—Ngau Con ... 13

Tripe (undressed)—Ngau Ton ... 6

Calves Head & Feet—Ngau chah-tai-kak, set \$1.00

Mutton Chop—Young Fat Kwat ... lb 22

Leg—Young Fat Kwat ... 22

Shoulder—Young Shau ... 20

Pigs' Chittings—Chi cheng ... 24

Brains—Chi Know ... per set 2

Foot—Chi Kerk ... 12

Fry—Chi Chak ... 15

Head—Chi Tau ... 15

Heart—Chi Sum ... each 10

Kidneys—Chi Yiu ... 8

Liver—Chi Con ... lb 30

Pork Chop—Chi Fat Kwat ... 22

Corned—Ham Chu Yuk ... 24

Leg—Chu Pei ... 20

Fat or Lard—Chu Yan ... 20

Sheep's Head and Feet—Young Tau Kerk set 50

Heart—Young Sum ... each 6

Kidneys—Young Yiu ... 10

Liver—Young Con ... lb 22

Sucking Pigs, To Order—Chu Chai ... 22

Suet, Beef—Sang Ngau Yan ... 20

Mutton—Sang Young Yan ... 22

Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk ... 20

Sausages—Ngau Chai Cheong ... 20

Poultry.

Chicken—Kai Chai ... lb 30

Capons, Large, Small—Sin Kai ... 28

Ducks—A ... 18

Doves—Fan Kau ... each 15

Eggs, Hen—Kai Tau ... per dozen 24

Fowls, Canton—Kai ... lb 32

Fowls, Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai ... 28

Geese—Ngai ... 24

Geese, Wild—Shai, Shai Yee Ngai, pair ... 55

Musks Deer—Wong Keag ... each 1

Hare, Shanghai—Tui Chai ... 1

Partridges—Chi Kai ... pair \$1.60

Pheasants—Shan Kai ... each 35

Nigons, Canton—Fak Kap ... 27

Hollow—Hoi Hoi Pak Kap ... 20

Quail—Um Chuan ... 20

Rice Birds—Wo Pa Cheuk ... dozen 22

Snipe—Sa Choy ... 22

Turkeys, Cook—Pior Kai Kung ... 80

Hens—Na ... 50

Wild Ducks, Shai—Shanghai Sui-ap pair ... 50

Teal—Sui Ap Chai ... 50

Wild Ducks Canton—Sang Shing Sui Ap, ea. 65

Fish.

Bartel—Ka Yu ... lb 9

Bream—Bin Yu ... 14

Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hoi Sin Yu ... 14

Carp—Li Yu ... 18

Catfish—Chik Yu ... 18

Dogfish—Mun Yu ... 24

Crabs—Kai ... 20

Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu ... 15

Dab—Sa Hang Yu ... 14

Gudgeon—Wong Mei Lun ... 10

Dog Fish—Tui Tu Sa ... 8

Eels, Congor—Hoi Mann ... 14

Eels, Fresh—Tun Sin Yu ... 14

Eels, Yellow—Wong Sin ... 24

Frog—Ten Kai ... 45

Garoupa—Sak Pau ... 12

Gudgeon—Fak Kap Yu ... 20

Herrings—Tao Pak ... 20

Halibut—Cheung Kwai Kung ... 24

Labrus—Wong Sa Yu ... 18

Loach—Wu Yu ... 18

Lobsters—Lung Ha ... 16

Mackerel—Chi Yu ... 16

Musk Fish—Mong Yu ... 21

Mullet—Chai Yu ... 22

Oysters—Sang Hoo ... 26

Parrotfish—Kai Kung Yu ... 16

Pike—Tui Hoo ... 16

Pike—Fai Pau Fong ... 8

Plaice—Fan Yu ... 18

Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong ... 24

Pomfret, White—Pak Chong ... 32

Prawns—Ming Ha ... 54

Ray—Fai Pa Sa ... 19

Rock Fish—Sak Kung Kung ... 14

Shark—Chu Y ... 28

肉食

猪肉

猪肉

